



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BILL LEWIS, CHAIRMAN – BOB CHRISTOPHERSEN – KEN ELIASON

10 COURT STREET, MALAD, IDAHO 83252

Meeting minutes for March 18th, 2022

Commissioners in attendance: Bill Lewis, Robert Christophersen, Ken Eliason

Commissioner Lewis opened the meeting.

After review of the documents supporting the Malad Valley Irrigation company in their bid for grant assistance on water shed projects to conserve water, it was found that the intended letter of support actually identified Oneida County as the host for the grant and thus the administrator and liable entity. Some of the items that gave the most concern was the cost sharing, taking property by eminent domain, continued maintenance on all projects, in kind donations and permits being paid by the sponsor.

The representatives of the irrigation company were brought back to better explain the program. Tod Daniels and Tracy Davis along with their hired engineer Lance Houser explained that the Federal grant money was being administered by the State Farm Services Agency. A sponsor, such as the county or city government, is required by regulation and they were seeking approval of the county to assume the host role. If a project was approved then the county would sign agreements with the recipient organization to give them the responsibilities associated with the grant.

The claim was made that no project approvals were to be given unless the county was in agreeance with the project. Further it was stated that the entity receiving the benefit would have to sign an agreement taking responsibility for the project thus removing liability from the county. The commissioners seemed a bit skeptical. Mr. Houser stated that Franklin County had already begun the process and that one or two project were underway in their county. It was stated that depending on the project the grant could pay up to 100% of the cost.

Commissioner Lewis commented that he felt better about moving forward with the environmental studies to see what projects would qualify. He was in favor of the prior approval to support the program.

Commissioner Eliason was still a little unsettled however he was in favor of the projects identified. The commissioners all gave their support of the project after the discussion and explanation. Because the motion had been made in the prior meeting no action was needed.

the meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill Lewis".

Bill Lewis, Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Matthew L. Colton".

Matthew L. Colton, Clerk